

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE PLATTE-GEDDES SCHOOL
DISTRICT #11-5 BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

President J. Sondgeroth called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Platte-Geddes School District #11-5 to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, in the Library at the Platte-Geddes High School. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Jess Sondgeroth, Ross Van Zee, Ross Varilek, Duke Starr, Heather VanDerWerff, Roxi Summerville, Dennis DeBoer

Members absent: None

Others present: Superintendent Joel Bailey, Business Manager Kathy Holter, Secondary Principal Patrick Frederick, Elementary Principal Jennifer Knecht, Darren DeNeui and Jason Huizenga. Via Zoom: Sandy DuFrain, Phyllis Daum, Trisha Frandsen, Staci Erickson, Frank Cutler, Lacey Mills, Sadie Hanson

Additions or deletions to this agenda

The following items were added to the printed agenda: Conflict of Interest Disclosures and Consideration of Waivers, Resolution to Follow SD DOH COVID-19 Close Contract Quarantine Recommendations

Approve agenda

Motion D. Starr, seconded R. Varilek approving the agenda as amended. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded D. Starr approving the following consent agenda:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, August 10, 2020
- Authorize Payment of Claims for September 18, 2020
- Approve Report of Cash Transactions dated 08/31/2020
- Void Check #43022 written to Hudl in the amount of \$1,998.00 on 08/20/2020
- Approve Donna Nelson as Substitute Teacher

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Participation

None

Routine Business

Conflict of Interest Disclosures and Consideration of Waivers

Ross Van Zee submitted a Request for School Board Waiver for the board's approval. Mr. Van Zee is the manager of the Platte Food Center and also serves on the Platte-Geddes School District Governing Board. The Platte-Geddes School District does business with the Platte Food Center on a regular basis. Mr. Van Zee's bonus is based on the store's year end net profits; however, the store gives the district discount pricing which results in very little net profit. Due to this arrangement, minimal personal benefit is gained by Ross Van Zee. Motion D. Starr, seconded R. Summerville authorizing the request for waiver because the terms of the contract are fair and reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Good News Report

Biology students gained a better understanding of COVID-19. Students researched several parts of the virus and the pandemic. The project ended in a debate over the new fictitious mandate from Governor Noem of a mandatory use of wearing masks.

The senior Ag Leadership Class put together playground equipment for the Bright Beginnings Learning Center. Modern Woodmen of America has donated \$1,000 to assist in purchasing infrared thermometers and three UVC wall sterilizing lights that will be installed in the elementary STEAM room.

Superintendent Report

Supt. Bailey reported that the year is off to a great start. For the most part, students are complying with Return to Learn procedures. A few adjustments have been made but that is to be expected.

As Tech Paving completed the chip and fog seal on the elementary track on August 27-28. The same procedure will be followed next summer and the additional coat of the fog seal should result in a smoother

surface. Commercial Asphalt will be completing additional repairs. The athletic complex track resurfacing and striping has been completed as has the additional crow's nest.

A Title I parent meeting and open house was held at Cedar Grove Colony School on August 28. There are 44 students at Cedar Grove and 20 at Platte Colony. The school year is going well at both colonies.

Governor Noem has announced that an additional \$75 million in Coronavirus Relief Fund grant funding will be made available to South Dakota's public and non-public K-12 schools. The U.S. Treasury's updated guidance allows direct payments to K-12 schools of up to \$500 per elementary and secondary students. Payments can be used to "cover costs associated with providing distance learning or for in-person learning". The payments may only be used to cover costs that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State of government; and
3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

Supt. Bailey presented several options for the use of the additional funds. Guidance will be coming from the state on allowable expenses.

The food service personnel have been doing an excellent job so far. There has been a learning curve with preparing menus, meeting federal requirements, completing ordering for commodities, and managing daily routines. In an effort to reduce some of the stress and anxiety, Cydney Porter has been assisting the kitchen staff.

Deb Foxley has agreed provide art services again this year and Donna Nelson is providing music education to the Hutterite students.

Johnson Controls is in the process of installing the new heat pump.

Business Manager Report

Schoenfish & Co., Inc. wrapped up the audit of the 2019-2020 today. An exit audit review was held on Monday afternoon. Randy Schoenfish reported that the audit went very well.

The 2020-2021 budget for adoption has only slight changes from the preliminary presented in July. The adopted budget will require to be supplemented in the near future due to the new CRF Funds that the district will receive. Once the district decides how the funds will be spent, a supplemental budget will be prepared. Holter requested that a Finance Committee Meeting be scheduled to discuss ideas on how the Coronavirus Relief Funds may be spent.

The annual staff health screenings will be delayed for the time being. The district may schedule something at a later date. Influenza vaccinations will still be scheduled this fall for staff and students.

Due to the passage of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, it seemed necessary to put together a leave procedure for staff. This is addressed later on the agenda.

The online payment option implemented through Infinite Campus appears to be a positive move. So far the district has received over \$8,300 through the online payment option.

Elementary Principal Report

Mrs. Knecht reported that the day to day operations at the elementary building are going very well. Students and staff members have risen to the challenge of the new routines and are doing great. She thanked the teachers and staff members for their efforts to keep the day feeling as normal as possible for students.

There are currently four students utilizing the distance learning option. The lower elementary teachers have been sending work home for these students. Google Classroom is being used as a way to turn in assignments and send work back and forth with the home learners. The biggest element of home learning has been communication with parents.

A Birth to 5 Developmental Screening was held on Monday, September 14 in coordination with Core Cooperative. This screening is part of the on-going child find effort as well as a service to parents who have developmental concerns and questions. Mrs. Knecht reported that seventeen children were screened on Monday.

Secondary Principal Report

Homecoming is scheduled for next week. This year's theme is "Decades" with coronation taking place on Monday night, September 21, at 7:30 p.m. The parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, September 25th.

The district will also be hosting the 8th Annual Missouri Valley Marching Festival. The field show exhibition will be held at the athletic complex following the parade.

This semester there are 13 students taking Dual Credit Courses, 40 students taking Dial Virtual School Online Courses, 9 students taking Concurrent courses and 3 students taking E-Learning classes.

Mr. Frederick reported that things are flowing smoothly in the secondary building. With administration and staff working together to find solutions to issues that arise, there have been minimal disruptive bumps in the road. He stated that it is awesome to have the Platte-Geddes School Family back together and that the district just needs to keep doing what it is doing to keep everyone healthy, safe and in the school buildings. There are two e-learners from the secondary building and both are doing well.

Athletic Director Report

Mr. Cutler stated that so far the athletic schedules are on track. Rescheduling volleyball tournaments has been a challenge, however so far he has been able to find alternative events for those cancelled.

The Cross Country Invitational is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. Help is always needed. Platte-Geddes will also be hosting the Region Cross Country meet on Wednesday, October 14th at the Lake Platte Golf Course.

Cutler reported that home events have gone well and everyone in attendance seems to be adhering to the guidelines.

Mid Central Coop Report

R. Summerville reported on the Mid Central Educational Cooperative Meeting held on Monday, September 14, 2020.

Core Educational Coop Report

Supt. Bailey reported on the Core Educational Cooperative meeting held on Thursday, September 10, 2020.

Return to Learn Plan

At the August School Board Meeting, it was determined that the board would use the first few weeks of school as a trial run for requiring masks in the elementary STEAM room. At this time, the masks do not seem to be a distraction. The district has purchased a UVC wand that can be used to sanitize the STEAM materials. UVC lights will also be installed in the STEAM lab thanks to a Modern Woodmen of America donation.

Overall, the plan seems to be working fine. A few changes have been made in regards to the way the elementary staff is delivering instruction to remote learners.

Supt. Bailey stated that it is important for everyone to remember that the district is at Level 1 of the plan. If the move to Level 3 occurs, masks will be required for everyone. In conversations with other districts that are requiring masks, the students seem to be very cooperative.

Approve Custodian Contract

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded R. Varilek approving the contract for Makenzie Oberbroekling as after school/evening custodian at an hourly wage of \$11.75. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Resignation of High School Librarian

Motion D. Starr, seconded R. Summerville approving the resignation of Denise Nachtigal as High School Librarian. Supt. Bailey thanked her for her years of service. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Contract for High School Librarian

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded D. DeBoer approving the contract of Tana Huizenga as High School Librarian at an hourly wage of \$11.50. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Extra Duty Pay for Mrs. Cayla Graves

Motion H. VanDerWerff, seconded R. Summerville approving payment to Cayla Graves for 4.5 additional days of work completed after the school calendar year in the amount of \$1,057.50. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Elementary Special Education Contract for Mrs. Donna Kuipers

Mrs. Donna Kuipers serves as the special education teacher at the two colony schools. Mrs. Kuipers provides approximately 16 hours of special education services per week at the two schools. Motion D. Starr, seconded R. Varilek approving the elementary special education contract for Mrs. Donna Kuipers in the amount of \$35.99 per hour. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Hourly Rate of Administrative Assistant

The administrative assistant position held by Ember Bartels is not included in the PG-ESP collective bargaining unit because her duties include personal, confidential, and financial information. Both Supt. Bailey and K. Holter recommend an increase in her hourly wage due to her previous experience, job performance, and myriad of tasks that she completes. Motion R. Summerville, seconded D. DeBoer approving an increase in hourly wage for Administrative Assistant Ember Bartels of \$2.50 per hour. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve COVID-19 Employee Leave Procedure

With the passage of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the implementation of a COVID-19 Leave Procedure is necessary. This procedure outlines the types of leaves available to staff members, compensation corresponding to these leaves, and forms to be completed when requesting leave. Having a specific procedure will hopefully make the process less confusing and will also help identify those leaves that may be funded with CRF or CARES Act funding. Motion R. Summerville, seconded D. Starr approving the COVID-19 Employee Leave Procedure. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Stipend for Black Panthers Live

Supt. Bailey is requesting a stipend for Mrs. Stacey Larson for handling all of the work that takes place behind the scenes for Black Panthers Live. She volunteers a great deal of her time to ensure things are working well and assists student helpers by phone when she is not at an event. Motion R. Van Zee, seconded D. DeBoer approving a \$500.00 stipend for Mrs. Stacey Larson. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adopt 2020-2021 Budget

Motion D. DeBoer, seconded R. Varilek approving the following resolution:

Let it be resolved, that the School Board of the Platte-Geddes School District No. 11-5, after duly considering the proposed budget and its changes thereto, to be published in accordance with SDCL 13-11-2 hereby approves and adopts its proposed budget and changes thereto, to be its Annual Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The adopted annual budget totals are as follows:

General Fund	\$4,371,477.00
Capital Outlay	\$2,300,152.00
Special Education	\$1,048,671.00
Impact Aid Fund	\$ 78,900.00
Food Service	\$ 201,220.00
Driver’s Education	\$ 5,500.00
Capital Outlay Certificates	\$ 227,385.00

The levy requests are as follows:

General Fund: Ag Property	\$1.443/\$1,000 of total valuation
Owner Occupied	\$3.229
Other	\$6.682
Capital Outlay:	\$1,929,183.00
Special Education:	\$0.75/\$1,000 of total valuation

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Resolution to Follow SD Department of Health COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Recommendations

On Thursday, September 10, Secretary of Education, Dr. Ben Jones, informed school districts that the Department of Health’s 14-day close contact quarantine requirement is not a requirement at all, but a recommendation. He went on to say that local school boards have the final say when determining how districts choose to handle students/staff that have been identified as close contacts.

In a previous conference call, it was asked if it is common for someone to develop COVID symptoms later in their quarantine period. It was confirmed that close contacts can begin to display symptoms up to two weeks after being exposed to a person testing positive for COVID and that is why the CDC and DOH recommend the two week quarantine period. School attorney, Rodney Freeman, is also strongly recommending that the districts he represents follow the medical expert’s recommendations.

Motion R. Summerville, seconded R. Van Zee adopting a resolution to follow CDC & SD DOH COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Recommendations. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Set Time/Date for October Board Meeting

Motion D. DeBoer seconded D. Starr changing the time for the regular October School Board Meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. and changing the location to the High School Conference Room. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded H. VanDerWerff to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

President

Business Manager